

**Petition of the Rajah of Ballabgarh, dated 2nd
September 1857**

To—The King ! Vicar of God ! &c., &c.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH ! That I have had the very great honour to receive Your Majesty's missive, intimating your acceptance of my present of a dun horse, and directing me to be assured that no one of the Army shall commit any act of oppression or grievance against the Ballabgarh State. I feel as though I were elevated to the very summit of distinction. The tongue and language are alike altogether at fault adequately to express thankfulness commensurate with such signal and abounding graciousness and condescension. May God preserve and protect Your Majesty, to the end of time, in the performance of similar acts of favour and support ! Refuge of Royalty ! It is a most extraordinary circumstance, that Your Majesty has ordered that no one connected with the Army shall commit any act of oppression against the Ballabgarh State; and today, the 2nd of September 1857, I receive a letter from Muhammad Bakht Khan, Commander-in-Chief of the Army, saying that all the prisoners throughout the country had been set at large, but that Hardeo Bakhsh, Pran Sukh and others, Dhusar, and Jamayat Khan, coach-man, were still in imprisonment, and directing me to forward them to the Army, together with their bonds and engagements, in the custody of the ten Troopers he had sent. It is fully known to Your Majesty that the above-named prisoners are accountable to this State for frauds amounting to lacs of rupees, and have agreed to pay this money, for which they are so accountable. How then can

men responsible for such claims and demands be released; for if they should be set free, the loss to me, your slave, would be excessive. The above prisoners are not like those incarcerated in Criminal Jails, from whose enlargement and release from prison no manner of loss could result. If such detenus as the above are released, endless evils, mischievous to my arrangements, will arise, and their suppression afterwards will be exceedingly difficult. Under these circumstances, then, I humbly supplicate that an order may be issued to the Commander-in-Chief to refrain from requiring that persons responsible to the Ballabgarh State should be sent to him, and that he will on no account call for them, as from such proceedings on his part, it is in every point of view evident that damage to the very foundations of this State must accrue. I trust, therefore, that my request will receive the honour of approval, for I, your slave, am an old and devoted servant and well-wisher of your throne, which is the threshold of earth and heaven. I expect, moreover, that Your Majesty's servants will make over Hakim Abdul Hak, Pandit Jowala Prashad and others, my Officials, as I have claims against them, amounting to about eleven lacs and twenty-five thousand rupees, so that I may realize this money from them. Prayers for the King's prosperity. Further, I forward the Commander-in-Chief's letter in original. After perusal, let it be kindly returned, with a favourable answer to this petition. Petition of the slave Rajah Nahar Singh Bahadur. Seal of Rajah Nahar Singh Bahadur.

The Court at 4 P.M. adjourns till 11 A.M., on Monday, the 1st of February.

Ahsan Ullah Khan, Physician, is recalled and examined on his former affirmation.

Papers Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 13 arranged under the head of loan, are shown to witness, who declares that the seals on all are impressions from the special seal in the prisoner's Cypher. The witness declares further that the papers with the exception of No. 6, are all in the handwriting of Mukund Lal, the Prisoner's secretary. Papers 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, are now shown to witness, and, with exception of 2, 3, and 12,

of which he knows nothing he gives the following statement of the others No. 1 is in the handwriting of Mukund Lal, and attested as genuine by King's autograph cypher; and No. 11 is also attested with autograph cypher; but witness does not recognize the handwriting. The translations of the 16 paper under the head of Loan are now read and entered, as follows :

Papers arranged under the Head of Loan